DEPARTMENT OF MICROBIOLOGY
EUCLID AVENUE AND KINGSHIGHWAY

November 17, 1958.

Dr. Joshua Lederberg Department of Medical Genetics University of Wisconsin Madison 6, Wisconsin

Dear Josh:

I received your letter of November 11 after I talked to you on the phone, and I just wanted to tell you that I am very much relieved to know that you're helping in the attempt to find a chairman for the chemistry department. As I mentioned to you during your visit, I've felt as if there was not enough objective and informed opinion on the presently constituted committee to ensure us of a good selection. I know you appreciate how important it is to our future to have a top flight and sympathetic person in that position. From what you've said of Johnson, I find all my previous impressions confirmed and am prepared to fall back on him only as a last resort. I really feel confident that we can do very much better, and I am encouraged by Terman's decision to wait if necessary until the right man does come along. Incidentally, I do know Frank Strong pretty well and while I have a very good opinion of him, I don't think he is, as you put it, a chemist's chemist to the extent that we would want him.

With respect to the latter that you received from the P.H.S. about your genetics training grant, I feel at least as strongly as you do that you should resist every attempt to involve you in a "correlated" or "integrated" program. I would suspect that this suggestion is more of an administrative inspiration than any feeling that would be felt by an informed, scientific panel that will review the application.

Sincerely,

Arthur Kornberg.

AK/McK